

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of metallizing a surface of a solid polymer substrate including: a) generating radicals on the substrate surface by subjecting it to a gas plasma, the intensity of the plasma having a level ensuring creation of radicals in the polymer surface so that the bulk polymer is not depolymerized, b) forming a layer on the surface using a plasma enhanced polymerization process employing one or more monomers including monomers selected from the group consisting of mono and diacrylates, isocyanates, allylic compounds and vinylic compounds, and mixtures thereof, c) providing a surface deposition using a PVD or CVD process to deposit metal atoms, and d) optionally providing a metallization of the surface by using a conventional electroless bath, or avoiding electroless metallization by using direct electrolytic metallization, when the metal deposit formed in c) has a thickness allowing electrolytic metallization. Also a metallized polymer substrate obtainable by the method.